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Control: 13195
Rec'd: June 26, 1954 3:25 a.m.

FROM: Mexico City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1624, June 25, 6 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
JUN 26 1954

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PRIORITY

Monge, ORIT secretary general, is seriously concerned about effect on ORIT of Latin American reaction Castillo Armas uprising, which he says is strongest he has ever seen build up in so short time. He says ORIT will have to make public statement on subject, probably this weekend, and that it cannot go counter to this reaction. He believes that in past year ORIT gained considerable ground overcoming apathy and suspicions non-Communist labor movements, but that these gains are threatened by resentment among Latin American liberals over what they suspect is US intervention in Guatamala. In his view the situation is giving Communists opportunity reestablish contacts with non-Communist liberal and leftist groups which they had lost or were losing and to do great damage with charge that ORIM is tool State Department.

Monge tentatively plans statement reaffirming ORIT's sympathy with legitimate aspirations Guatamalan people and proclaiming that not even genuine dangers Communist infiltration in Guatamala can blind ORIT to mistakes United Fruit Company that country.

Monge critical Castillo Armas for not announcing any social principles or policies significance to Guatamalan working people and public. For all they know now, he may merely be another Trujillo or Somoza, with no comprehension of, or sympathy for, people's desire for social reform.

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